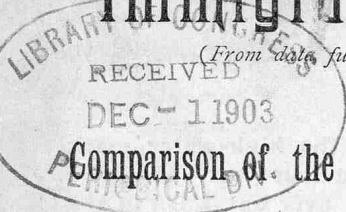


Immigration Figures for 1903.

(From data furnished by the Commissioner-General of Immigration.)



Comparison of the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 1902 and 1903.

| | 1902. | 1903. |
|--|---------|---------|
| Total immigration | 648,743 | 857,046 |
| Percentage of increase over 1902 | | 32 |
| Percentage of increase over 1901 | 33 | 76 |
| Percentage of increase over 1899 | 108 | 175 |
| Percentage of increase over 1898 | 183 | 274 |
| Number debarred from entrance and returned within one year after landing | 5,429 | 9,316 |
| Per cent. debarred and returned | 0.8 | 1.1 |
| Number of illiterates over 14 years of age. [See Note 1.] | 165,105 | 189,008 |
| Per cent. of illiterate in total immigration over 14 years of age | 28.7 | 25.0 |
| Immigration from countries of Northern and West- ern Europe. [See Note 2.] | 138,700 | 203,689 |
| Per cent. of total immigration | 21.4 | 23.8 |
| Immigration from countries of Southern and Eastern Europe. [See Note 2.] | 480,331 | 610,813 |
| Per cent. of total immigration | 74.0 | 71.3 |
| Immigration from Asia | 22,271 | 29,966 |
| Per cent. of total immigration | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| Average money brought, in dollars | 16 | 19 |
| Per cent. of immigrants who have been in the United States before | 9.5 | 8.9 |
| Per cent. of total immigration having no occupa- tion, including women and children . . . | 23.6 | 23.3 |
| Per cent. of total immigration who were farm-labor- ers, laborers, or servants | 60.6 | 57.3 |
| Per cent. of total immigration destined for the four States of Ill., Mass., N.Y., and Pa. . . . | 67.8 | 65.4 |

NOTE 1. — Although the percentage of illiteracy shows an improvement this year over last, it should be remembered that these figures are based upon the manifests, which in turn are made up from the statements of the immigrants. One test recently made at New York showed that 175

immigrants listed as able to read and write were, in fact, illiterate. The recent agitation for an educational test for immigrants has undoubtedly made the latter more disposed to assert their ability to read and write.

NOTE 2. — "Northern and Western Europe" includes the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Scandinavia, Belgium, Netherlands, and Switzerland.

"Southern and Eastern Europe" includes Austria-Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, and the Balkan States.

GENERAL REMARKS. — Immigration has reached the high-water mark during the past year, exceeding that of the largest previous year (1882) by nearly 70,000. It is gratifying to note an increase of over one-third in the proportion of those debarred and returned, and to testify to the great improvement in the efficiency of the service since the present Commissioner-General took office. Attempts are also being made to secure an adequate inspection on the frontiers of Canada and Mexico, and steps are being now taken to ascertain definitely the aliens in our penal and charitable institutions.

On the other hand, while there has been some increase in the immigration from Northern and Western Europe, the great proportion of immigration has come as usual from the less desirable races of Southern and Eastern Europe, and there has been a considerable influx of illiterate Japanese.

Hon. William Williams, Commissioner at New York, says in his report: "Without the proper execution of [the present laws] it is safe to say that thousands of additional aliens would have come here last year. But these laws do not reach a large body of immigrants who, while not of this class, are yet generally undesirable, because unintelligent, of low vitality, of poor physique, able to perform only the cheapest kind of manual labor, desirous of locating almost exclusively in the cities, by their competition tending to reduce the standard of living of the American wageworker, and unfitted mentally or morally for good citizenship. It would be quite impossible to accurately state what proportion of last year's immigration should be classed as 'undesirable.' I believe that at least 200,000 (and probably more) aliens came here who, although they may be able to earn a living, yet are not wanted, will be of no benefit to the country, and will, on the contrary, be a detriment, because their presence will tend to lower our standards; and if these 200,000 persons could have been induced to stay at home, nobody, not even those clamoring for more labor, would have missed them. Their coming has been of benefit chiefly, if not only, to the transportation companies which brought them here."

The largest elements in recent immigration were:

| | 1899. | 1900. | 1901. | 1902. | 1903. |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Southern Italian | 65,639 | 84,346 | 115,704 | 152,915 | 196,117 |
| Polish | 28,466 | 46,938 | 43,617 | 69,620 | 82,343 |
| Scandinavian | 23,249 | 32,952 | 40,277 | 55,780 | 79,347 |
| Hebrew | 37,415 | 60,764 | 58,098 | 57,688 | 76,203 |
| German | 26,632 | 29,682 | 34,742 | 51,686 | 71,782 |
| Irish | 32,345 | 35,607 | 30,404 | 29,001 | 35,366 |
| Slovak | 15,838 | 29,243 | 29,343 | 36,934 | 34,427 |
| Croatian and Slovenian | 8,632 | 17,184 | 17,928 | 30,233 | 32,907 |

ILLITERACY.

Number of persons in each hundred immigrants over fourteen years of age who cannot write or cannot read and write their own language, from those races (*not nations*) which contributed upwards of 2,000 immigrants to the United States during any of the past four fiscal years:

| WESTERN EUROPE. | 1900. | 1901. | 1902. | 1903. |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Scandinavian | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Scotch | — | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Bohemian and Moravian | 3.0 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| English | 0.2 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.6 |
| Irish | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 3.8 |
| Finnish | 2.7 | 2.2 | 1.4 | 2.2 |
| French | 3.9 | 3.9 | 4.8 | 3.8 |
| German | 5.8 | 4.1 | 5.4 | 4.6 |
| Dutch and Flemish | 9.6 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 6.9 |
| Italian (North) | 11.2 | 15.7 | 14.4 | 12.7 |
| Average of above | 4.2 | 5.6 | 4.4 | 3.9 |

EASTERN EUROPE (WITH SPAIN AND PORTUGAL).

| | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Spanish | — | — | — | 8.9 |
| Magyar | 16.8 | 7.5 | 13.3 | 10.5 |
| Roumanian | — | — | 28.3 | 21.5 |
| Slovak | 27.9 | 30.7 | 25.9 | 21.6 |
| Greek | 17.1 | 25.9 | 30.0 | 27.7 |
| Russian | — | — | — | 31.9 |
| Polish | 31.2 | 37.5 | 38.4 | 32.1 |
| Croatian and Slovenian | 37.4 | 39.7 | 42.2 | 35.2 |
| Bulgarian, Servian, Montenegrin | — | — | — | 44.7 |
| Lithuanian | 31.7 | 49.8 | 54.1 | 46.6 |
| Ruthenian | 49.0 | 53.2 | 50.0 | 49.4 |
| Italian (South) | 54.6 | 59.1 | 56.4 | 51.4 |
| Portuguese | 59.9 | 63.8 | 71.6 | 73.2 |
| Average of above | 39.8 | 46.0 | 44.3 | 39.7 |

OTHER RACES.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Cuban | 6.8 | — | 8.0 | 4.2 |
| Chinese | — | 6.9 | — | 12.9 |
| Hebrew | 22.9 | 23.6 | 28.6 | 26.5 |
| Japanese | 8.9 | 6.7 | 1.2 | 27.0 |
| African (black) | — | — | — | 32.5 |
| Syrian | 55.9 | 56.1 | 51.0 | 53.8 |

For publications and membership in the Immigration Restriction League address Prescott F. Hall, Secretary, Fiske Building, Boston. The dues for membership are as follows : For *annual* membership, one dollar, payable in advance upon admission and upon January 1st of each year ; for *life* membership, ten dollars, payable upon admission, life members being exempt from annual dues.

The League is a strictly non-partisan and non-sectarian organization, with members from all parts of the United States. It advocates a stricter regulation of immigration, but not the exclusion of any immigrants whose character and standards fit them to become citizens.

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